

October 3, 2017

The Honorable Hank Vaupel  
Chair, House Health Policy Committee  
House of Representatives  
P.O. Box 30014  
Lansing, MI 48909-7514

**RE: Senate Bill 274 (Knollenberg)**

**POSITION: Support**

Dear Representative Vaupel:

Senate Bill 274, sponsored by Senator Marty Knollenberg, would allow a pharmacist to partially fill a prescription for a Schedule 2 controlled substance, under certain circumstances, including when a patient requests a smaller quantity than what was prescribed. McKesson respectfully requests your support of this important legislation.

McKesson, ranked #5 on the Fortune 500, is a 180-year-old healthcare services company with more than 70,000 associates worldwide and operations in more than 16 countries. McKesson partners with pharmaceutical manufacturers, providers, pharmacies, governments and other organizations in healthcare to help provide the right medicines, medical products and healthcare services to the right patients at the right time, safely and cost-effectively. In Michigan, McKesson employs nearly 1,000 people.

The nation, and Michigan, face significant challenges with prescription drug abuse and opioid diversion. The epidemic has impacted nearly every community in America and has claimed victims from all races, ages and socio-economic groups. McKesson is committed to helping solve this multi-faceted problem in collaboration with our partners in the supply chain.

Earlier this year, McKesson developed a white paper on ways to combat the opioid epidemic, which included a recommendation to permit patients to request partial fills of controlled substances. Allowing patients to partially fill their prescriptions increases the chances that a patient will be prescribed the exact number of pills that he or she needs; thus, reducing the risk of these "extra" pills being improperly disposed, lost, stolen, sold or given to others. The flexibility, allowed in SB 274, will help reduce the number of unused opioid pills and limit opportunities for diversion or misuse of these medications.

In conclusion, we recommend and ask for your support of SB 274.

Sincerely,



Matt Ottiger  
Director, State Government Affairs – Midwest Region  
McKesson Corporation

cc: House Health Policy Committee members  
Senator Marty Knollenberg